TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 2862 - HB 3193

February 4, 2012

SUMMARY OF BILL: Adds as a violation of the Consumer Protection Act, a Class B misdemeanor, the introduction into the stream of commerce a product labeled for a use the entity knows or reasonably should know will be used in a manner other than the labeled purpose and that is listed on the Attorney General's website as a synthetic drug. Authorizes a plaintiff to bring a civil action for a violation, and be entitled to the greater of treble the actual damages plus attorney's fees and costs, or \$10,000 per violation.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- Based upon information provided by the Department of Commerce and Insurance, this bill will create another ground for which the Division of Consumer Affairs will investigate consumer complaints. This can be accomplished utilizing existing resources without an increased appropriation or reduced reversion.
- According to the Attorney General's Office, maintaining a list of recognized synthetic drugs on the Office's website can be accomplished utilizing existing resources without an increased appropriation or reduced reversion.
- A small increase in cases in the court system, which will result in additional state and local government expenditures for processing the cases and additional state and local government revenue from fees, taxes, and costs collected. These expenditures and revenue are estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

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